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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Track plan to get 2nd look

Project may be modified before being re-bid

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

With high school track construction delayed after low bidders dropped out, the committee that wrote the specs may revisit the project's scope.

Lou Conte, the former athletic director at Agawam High School, and the chairman of the Track Exploratory Committee established by Mayor Richard Cohen two years ago, has called a meeting of his committee, as well as the Agawam City Council and Agawam School Committee, at Agawam High School on Aug. 13.

Because the entire committees are being invited, the meeting will be open to the public.

At a special City Council meeting held on June 23 where the council learned the mayor was planning to delay the project until next spring and that a

larger borrowing authorization would be needed, Conte said he believed there has been a disconnect between the work of the original committee and the project specifications that went out to bid.

He says there is now an opportunity to revisit the project scope and give Milone and MacBroom, the designers for the project, a chance to take in feedback from elected officials and members of the exploratory committee.

"I, as the committee chair, left many of the original committee questions unanswered during the initial process," Conte said. "This is an opportunity to start the process over and provide all the proper parties with answers to any questions they may have."

Jennifer Bonfiglio, the Community Preservation Act admin-

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QUARRY FALL



Nina Bruno throws out the ceremonial first pitch at Sunday's American Legion baseball game in honor of her brother Antonio. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Legion squad rallies for injured teen

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

Since he fell 40 feet into a quarry near the Southwick line two weeks ago, the thoughts and prayers of town residents have been with Agawam teenager Antonio Bruno.

Bruno suffered severe injuries, especially to his face, but he is starting the long road to recovery, and will walk again.

The Agawam Senior American Legion Post 185 baseball team decided to band together

on Sunday and hold a fundraiser for Bruno and his family to help defray the costs of uninsured expenses associated with Bruno's recovery.

The fundraiser took place at Shea Field, where Agawam Legion players were holding the second of a best-of-three series against Greenfield in the American Legion playoffs.

"Antonio was our regular right fielder for the team this summer," said coach Brian Regnier.

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LOCAL THEATER

Sharing the spotlight



Red Door Theatre co-owner Marilene Allen helps Ella Dietz, 12, finish getting dressed prior to the premiere of Allen's original play, "Happily Ever What!?" TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Theater owners present original plays with roles for everyone

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

In theater, there are supposed to be no small parts. But in the case of the Red Door Theatre, it takes in-house playwrights make sure there are roles for everyone.

The pair of Agawam residents who co-own the Feeding Hills theater are producing their own original plays, so that all their summer campers can share the spotlight.

"When we look through plays, we simply do not have parts for 44 children, so I wrote my own play the children could perform."

Marilene Allen, playwright and theater co-owner

Co-owner Marilene Allen wrote the season's first production, "Happily Ever What!?" which debuted with several performances last weekend.

The play is a fast-paced comedy that pits modern-day heroines against a number of fairytale villains. The heroines are somehow transformed from real-life to a fictional place called "Fairy Tale High."

The play features well-known

THEATER | page 11

YOUNG AUTHOR

Burning passion for firefighting sparks book about AFD

By Mike Lydick
 aan@turley.com

Cameron Wood has been interested in firefighting for the past few years. His activities range from reading books about firefighting to collecting badges from fire departments around the country.

The 13-year-old recently took his enthusiasm to a new level when he wrote a book, "A Day in the Life of a Firefighter." The soon-to-be AHS freshman wrote the book when his eighth-grade class at AJHS was assigned to



Cameron Wood, 13, beams as Agawam firefighter Pamela Murphy holds up a copy of his book, "A Day in the Life of a Firefighter," at a recent School Committee meeting. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

write and publish 24-page books last September on any topic they chose.

"I immediately thought about firefighting. I was really interested in the topic and knew I really would enjoy researching and learning more about it," said Cameron.

His book — available from online publisher Lulu.com for \$19.99 — includes interviews with firefighters as well as the history of the 10 worst fires in America. Appropriately, the cov-

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20 PAGES

Calum Shand to perform at Senior Center

The Agawam Senior Center will host a Golden Oldies, Las Vegas-style show at 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 29, featuring Calum Shand. Specializing in the work of singers such as Elvis Presley, Tony Bennett, Nat King Cole, Neil Diamond and Barry Manilow, Shand performs popular tunes from the 1950s and beyond.

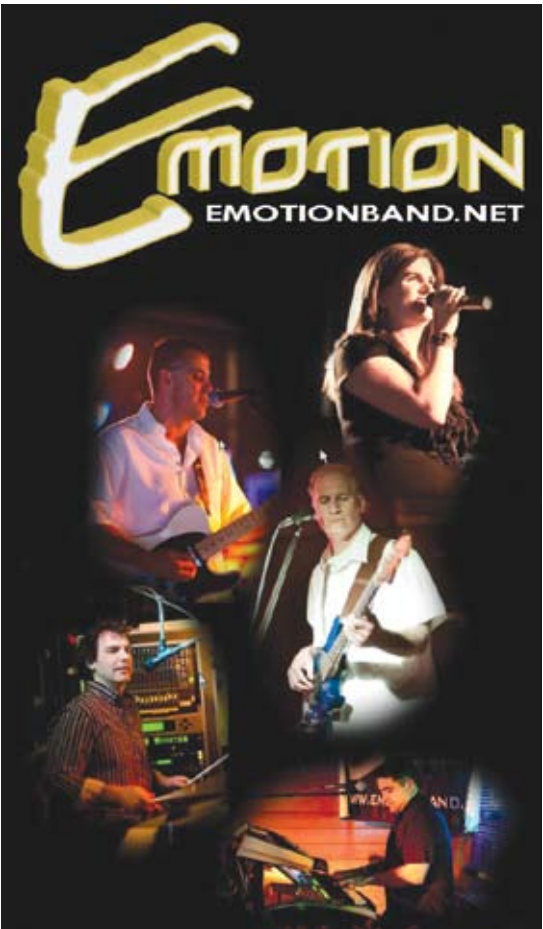
Tickets, which are \$5 per person, may be purchased in advance at the Senior Center at 954 Main St., Agawam or the day of the concert.

Emotion takes the stage at SummerFest

The SummerFest concert series continues Wednesday, July 22, at 7 p.m. at School Street Park in Agawam, with a performance by the Top 40 dance band Emotion. Based around the Springfield area, Emotion includes five members performing an impressive repertoire of music spanning six decades. From oldies to swing, rock to country, and pop to the latest dance tunes, Emotion has something for everyone.

Emotion has entertained thousands of people at clubs, festivals and private functions. They pride themselves on being a professional, exciting band that gets guests up and moving. Band members include Amy Tosi, vocals and percussion; Marc Lafayette, bass and vocals; Dave Bucalo, keyboards and vocals; Rod Squire, drums and vocals; and Ric Tereso, guitars and vocals.

The 2015 concerts are brought to the public free of charge by the following corporate sponsors: Agawam Advertiser News, Agawam Cultural Council, Agawam Lions Club, Agawam Rotary Club, Allied Flooring & Paint, Berkshire Power, Bolduc's Apparel, Canary Blomstrom, Cumberland Farms, Easthampton Savings, King Ward Coach Lines, WRNX-FM 100.9, Lucia Lumber, Main Street Deli, Moren Signs, Olympic Manufacturing, Quality Auto, Republic Services, Sarat Ford, Ski Blandford, United Bank and Westfield Bank.



The next SummerFest concert scheduled for July 22 at School Street Park will feature Emotion, a Springfield area favorite. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Home buying, selling seminar free to the public

The Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., will host a free seminar, "The Smart Way to Buy or Sell a Home ... and Save Thousands of Dollars," Monday, July 20, at 1 p.m. Attendees will learn how to determine the estimated value of their home, the pros and cons of "for sale by owner," how a real estate agent saves clients money and costs clients

money, the importance of a buyers' agent, the five critical steps of selling a home, the seven important steps of buying a home, low money down payment mortgages, the importance of a credit report and more.

To register, call Raymond Rose at 413-530-2186 or email RaymondRose@aol.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

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Are You Old News?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to aan@turley.com. Please include your first and last name.

Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Bob Fassnacht were Lynn Litchfield and Larry Scherpa,

Correctly identifying Susan Borgatti Meunier in the July 2 photo was Mary Ann Hajec Couture.



Special Police legislation tabled again

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The Special Police issue will continue to sit on the table while the Legislative Subcommittee takes another crack at the issue, which has divided members of the City Council and caused concerns for members of the Agawam Special Police and the town administration.

Mayor Richard Cohen submitted a revised resolution that changed the proposed increased retirement age from 70 to 68. Cohen's resolution would ask the City Council to apply to the state government for special legislation to allow part-time police officers to work past age 65, which is when they are supposed to retire.

Councilors turned down the mayor's first proposal, which would have set the retirement age at 70. Council President Christopher Johnson said he would entertain a higher retirement age if the affected officers were limited to traffic control duties and did not have full police powers.

Members of the Special Police, along with Cohen, argued that any officers on public assignment are expected by the public to respond to an incident when needed.

Councilor James Cichetti, who chairs the Legislative Subcommittee, has heard the issue twice now at meetings.

His subcommittee voted on July 6 to table the revised proposal pending further changes from the town's administration.

Cichetti voted against the original proposal, saying he

simply did not favor officers working past age 65, but said he was willing to reconsider the proposal at age 68 as a compromise.

"I know the town has a tough time filling up road jobs and that the chief would like to keep them working past 65," said Cichetti. "But it comes down to public safety. I am willing to consider 68, and would prefer it to be 67."

Cichetti said he and Johnson are researching whether they can legally amend the legislation to limit the special police officers to just road or traffic jobs.

Among the issues now up for consideration is protection for special police officers under Chapter 85H of state law. The language in the law stipulates compensation must be provided to special police officers who are injured on the job. However, with special officers working past age 65, Police Chief Eric Gillis said it could cause double-dipping among officers who receive a pension from the Hampden County retirement system.

Gillis suggested making sure the language from 85H was in the ordinance.

"We just need to clean up the language so people are not double-dipping," said Gillis.

On Monday night, the full City Council also voted to table the resolution to its Aug. 3 meeting. Cichetti said he will be holding another subcommittee meeting in the next few weeks to finally send a recommendation to the full council for the revised proposal.

The issue has piqued the interest of some of the Special Police officers in town, who are regularly attending meetings about the issue.

Blood donors sought this month

The Red Cross is urging eligible donors to give blood this month, to help offset a seasonal decline in donations and prevent a shortage this summer.

Blood drives in Agawam include July 21, noon to 5 p.m., at Sacred Heart Church, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, and July 31, noon to 6 p.m., at the Agawam Fire Department, 800 Main St.

Blood drives in neighboring towns include July 26, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Daily Grind, 568 College Highway, Southwick; and July 30, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Multicultural Community Services, 3 State St., Westfield.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-RED CROSS (733-2767).

Potential 18 names on council ballot

Two more challengers have stepped forward for the City Council, with a month to go before nominations are due for the 2015 municipal election.

John Cesan and Corinne Wingard took out nomination papers, joining a field that includes all 11 incumbents, plus fellow challengers Robert Alves, Michele Calvanese, Samuel DiSanti Jr., Robert Magovern and David Morin.

Nomination papers are available from the town clerk until mid-August. The election is Nov. 3; if necessary, the town will hold a preliminary election on Oct. 6. Candidates must return their nomination papers signed by at least 100 registered voters by Aug. 18 at 5 p.m., in order to appear on the ballot.

As of July 13, six council candidates had returned their papers: Magovern, and incumbents George Bitzas, Paul Cavallo, Donald Rheault, Robert Rossi and Anthony Suffriti.

Mayor Richard Cohen and challenger William Clark have taken out but not yet returned papers for the mayor's race.

All of the incumbent School Committee members have taken out papers, and as of July 13 two had returned them, Anthony Bonavita and Wendy Rua. A challenger, Brian Burbank, has also taken out papers.

The terms for mayor, city councilor and School Committee are all two years. Nomination papers are available at the clerk's office at Town Hall, 36 Main St., Agawam.

Photos sought for history of Big E

Like many area residents, David Cecchi eagerly awaits the September arrival of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. He's attended the fair for every one of his 50 years. He graduated from Agawam High School among the wood shavings of the Coliseum — one of the last five Agawam classes to do so. He took part in the Exposition's first "Agawam Day" on Sept. 14, 1989, as a member of the Agawam School Committee. He's introduced his two sons, who both later entered giant squash and pumpkin contests, to "New England's Great State Fair." He's roamed the grounds as a spectator, and, for more than three decades, as an exhibitor. He and his brothers, Bobby and Michael, annually entered produce from the family farm, E. Cecchi Farms in Feeding Hills, in the Native Produce Display, often garnering top honors. And he was awfully excited to be invited to the Exposition's Community Breakfast this spring kicking off the countdown to the 100th anniversary in 2016. However, this "Big E Booster" has his own special plan to celebrate the centennial of what he refers to as "The Fair."

He's writing a book.

"The Big E: Eastern States Exposition" will be part of Arcadia Publishing's popular "Images of America" series, and the fourth title Cecchi has authored for the publisher; along with "Agawam and Feeding Hills" (2000), "Agawam and Feeding Hills Revisited" (2005) and "Riverside Park" (2011). Arcadia Title Manager Caitrin Cunningham told the author that the Arcadia Publication Committee was "... thrilled that you'll be pursuing this project for the 'Images of America' series. I have always felt this was a title we needed in our Massachusetts catalog."

To supplement images from his own collection, and publicity shots made available to him from the archives of the East-

ern States Exposition, Cecchi is looking for family photos of the exposition for the book. Any and all photos will be considered, and shots from the 1936 flood, 1938 hurricane, exhibits, the midway, racing, and the Coliseum — hockey, high school graduations, and other events — are of particular interest.

Cecchi said he understands that "people are reluctant to recognize that their family photos are part of local history, but they are a really important part. I have included these amateur photos in all my previous books. They offer a very personal perspective. Of course, I realize that at the fair, the preference may be to hold a corn dog and not a camera, so there may not be all that many photos out there."

The author says he was honored to have the support of exposition officials.

"To be able to put this book together about this institution that I love — with their blessing — is really awesome," he said. "I've been granted access to hundreds of historical photographs and documents that will really help tell the story of the fair. Noreen Tassinari, Eastern States Exposition director of marketing, and everyone I've met at the exposition has been great. It feels like opening day at the fair."

Cecchi's Eastern States Exposition collection is extensive, spanning its entire existence, from programs, ribbons, and exhibitor pins dating from the inaugural 1916 National Dairy Show to Springfield Horse Show and 1941 Silver Jubilee Exposition & National Defense Show posters, to early auto racing programs, photos, premium books, pennants, passes and pins, through every decade, up to the program from last year's fair. And his 1989 Agawam Day ticket.

Those with photos to share should contact Cecchi directly at 413-786-3236 or cecchi@daividecchi.com.



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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Hearts and darts



HEARTS to all the retiring teachers, counselors and paraprofessionals at Agawam schools. You started in this career decades ago, and you've kept with it as society changed, families changed, your students' distractions changed, testing systems and state curriculum requirements changed, and career and college expectations changed, administrations in your own building and in the district office changed. You were the constant — you and your colleagues always focused on the student first. Because no law, no handbook, no framework, no high-stakes test, no shiny new building can create a great education. Only an intelligent, caring human being can do that, and you did it for hundreds. Thank you.



DART to the owner of the Agawam Motor Lodge, who reportedly neglected some of the most basic duties of an innkeeper — installing and maintaining smoke alarms; complying with electrical code to reduce the chance of wires and transformers catching fire; eradicating vermin such as cockroaches. These aren't the sorts of oversights that merit simply losing a "star" or a "diamond" in guidebook ratings, or getting a negative online review. These are serious threats to public health and safety. In the event of a fire — a fire that's more likely to occur with improperly installed electrical equipment and combustible materials lying around in several areas — the Fire Department depends on the smoke alarm system to get everyone out in time, both to save lives and so that they can focus on fighting the fire and stopping it from spreading. Skimping on fire safety could mean the loss of a life, both among motel guests and neighboring residents. Violations of health code, too, go beyond the aesthetic. With a transient population, and shared walls and linens, hotels are a prime breeding ground for disease. Long-term residents' children, and guests' local relatives, can bring those diseases to Agawam schools and workplaces, putting us all at risk. The town has two tasks before it: The first, and most important, is making sure all code violations are fixed, a process that's well underway. The second is to keep an eye on the motel, re-inspect a few months down the road, and ask hard questions when the motel's license comes up for renewal.

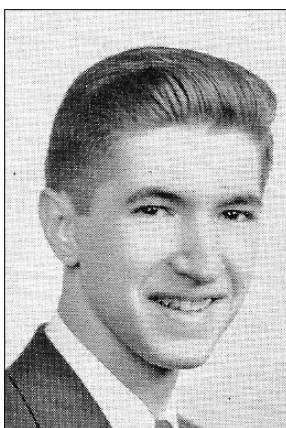


HEART to the Future Author Program at Agawam Junior High School, sponsored by Bridgeport National Bindery. Readers of the Agawam Advertiser News saw earlier this month how this unique program helps students fulfill what for some is a lifelong dream — and for all, certainly a lifetime achievement — of becoming a published author. And this week we have a more in-depth look at one of the authors, Cameron Wood. His 24-page nonfiction look at the Agawam Fire Department gained accolades from the firefighters themselves, who may be welcoming Cameron into their ranks in a few years. More importantly, Cameron's book showed that the Future Author Program isn't just about writing — for the writers of nonfiction, especially, it can also point the way to a career. Not all of the 300-plus AJHS students who participated this year will make a living in writing; the vast majority won't. But each one will go through life with more respect for the printed word and more appreciation for their own abilities. Perhaps one of them really is the next great biographer or historian. And perhaps one of them will be that writer's subject.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.



YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS



Albert Girotti



Donald Hastings



Martin Lehberger

The return of the '55s (part 1)

When some of us Brownies attended the sixth grade band concert at the Roberta G. Doering School back in June, we got to see the auditorium and first floor rooms that we hadn't seen in a very long time. My wife and I walked by the rooms where some of us '63s had Miss Dillon for English and Peter Sarant for math. That must have been 1958. How could we forget Mr. Sarantopolous shortening his name halfway through the year? On the other side of the building were our eighth grade rooms where we had Cornelius McMahon for English, Judson Hastings for science, Dick Barry for math and Chick Kistner for U.S. history.

On June 26, Mike Marieb called in the morning to tell me that the Class of '55 was touring the Doering School at one o'clock. Mike reminded me that they were the last class to graduate from that school because the new high school on Cooper Street opened in September of 1955. Sue Federico, principal, met the '55s in the hall outside the auditorium. She made them feel very welcome and had them gather for a picture. With her help I was able to get the names of the following '55s taking the tour (maiden names) — Audrey Letendre, Lee Ellershaw, Martin Lehberger, Don Hastings, Phyllis Misischia, Nino Moretti, Alice Harpin, Doris Papacini, Beverly Marieb, Al Girotti and Betty Behrens. The highlight of the tour was the gym, where hundreds of Brownies had bounced a basketball or tried to do a push-up. The climbing poles were gone and the seating areas above were now used for storage, but not much else was different. Someone asked if there still was a smaller gym through the doors and Sue Federico said yes.

Don Hastings came up for the reunion from Milford, Conn. After AHS, he graduated from UMass, where he majored in math education. He did his practice teaching at the new AHS with Miss Durkan and Miss Smith, so he was probably one of the first '55s to see the new high school. In September of 1959, Don was hired to teach high school math at Masuk High School in Mon-

roe, Conn. He said that it was a new high school. Don must have liked it because he taught there for 29 years. He taught for six more years at Stratford High School and then worked until he was 72 for a publishing company. He and his wife Mary Lou had three daughters, two teachers and a librarian, and now they have five grandchildren. Don said that our eighth grade science teacher was his older brother Judson, who is 83 and is still working up in Amherst. Back in 1955, Don's classmates sure thought a lot of him, for he was voted Most Popular Boy, Best All-Around Boy, Friendliest Boy, Class Gentleman and Boy Who Did Most For School. Not much has changed.

Albert Girotti came from Milwaukee. The '55s voted him Mr. I.Q. and Boy Most Likely to Succeed. After AHS, Al graduated from MIT (not too many Brownies have done that) and then got his doctorate in biochemistry from UMass. From there he went to Cornell Medical College in Manhattan for a post-doctorate. He worked many years for the medical school at Marquette and now is doing cancer-related research at the Medical College of Wisconsin. His son is a priest and Albert described the reunion as "fabulous." He sure went a long way from the school on Main Street.

Martin Lehberger '55 started working at the new Food Mart when he was only 16. After AHS, he got a job at WMECO where he met his wife Carol. He worked there over 40 years until his retirement in 1994. He and Carol have two children, Carl and Laura, who both graduated from AHS. The Lehbergers have six grandchildren and were wonderful to me at their home on Giffin Place. Martin did a lot of work planning the reunion and contacting classmates who came from all over the country. More about that in the next column.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.



Walt Willard



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Full sale



Gloria King shows her spirit at the tag sale held recently by the Agawam Junior Women's Club. The club raised money for its various programs and gave a donation to the Agawam Senior Center, which generously donated the use of its parking lot. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Natalia Clifton is happily standing guard over many treasures at the Agawam Junior Women's Club fundraising tag sale.



A representative from Vista Home Improvement is pictured with Agawam Junior Women's Club member Gloria King and club president Samantha Rudd at the recent tag sale.

FAITH MATTERS

Amazed at unbelief

The Gospel of Mark (Mark 6:1-13) captures a disappointing experience for Jesus and his disciples. Jesus went home to Nazareth, and at first things looked pretty good. Then the mood changed. The crowd started saying things like, "We've known him since he was a kid. Where did he get all this stuff? Isn't he Mary's son? We know his whole family. He's no better than us. Who does he think he is?" They took offense at him.

But Jesus' only response was, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown and among their own kin, and in their own house." He couldn't do any mighty works there because of their unbelief.

It's much easier to not believe than it is to believe. Even so, Jesus was amazed at their unbelief. We might likewise be amazed at the unbelief we see around us. Jesus just shrugged it off. We might witness to friends either through our words or by our examples, trying to live as God has called us to live. We might encounter unbelief just like Jesus did. But we are not responsible for the outcome. We are called to live as Christ's disciples, and we need to carry on regardless of any response we encounter. Sometimes we experience a reaction like Jesus got — rejection, ridicule, even hostility. So if we see that kind of unbelief in the people we encounter or in the situations we find ourselves, we should just shrug it off and move on. We can't take responsibility for someone else's lack of belief. Jesus showed that clearly in this story. It was a perfect "come to Jesus" moment.



Ken Blanchard

But he didn't try to convert anyone. If we are faithful to live the way of life we have been called to live, then that is enough. We are not called to make people believe and respond. That is the work of the Holy Spirit. Their time may not be now.

Maybe you've encountered people who have ridiculed your beliefs, or said something along the lines of "Who do you think you are?" or chalked up your "God experiences" to mere coincidence. If so, like Jesus, we might be amazed at the unbelief, amazed at the lack of faith. But it's not ours to judge. God will stir up the Holy Spirit in their lives at the right time. We can just shrug it off, shake the dust off our feet, and move on. We encounter that kind of unbelief not only in others but also in ourselves at times. It happens when we fail to call upon God for help, as individuals or as a church, or when we are not completely open to God's power and grace working in the lives of ordinary people like you and me — even people we may have known for years. Like Jesus sending off the disciples two by two to witness to the world, without taking anything for the journey, we too must learn to unburden ourselves. God may be telling us to lighten our load, getting rid of assumptions about how we've always done things, letting go of judgmental attitudes toward others, and just being open to seeing the power of God at work in others and even in ourselves. Be amazed.

Ken Blanchard is the pastor of Agawam United Methodist Church.

TABLE FOR TWO

Asian lettuce wraps

It's summer and most of us like to keep our cooking down to a minimum on hot, humid days. My Asian lettuce wraps are cool, crisp, light and especially inviting if you are trying to avoid breads and other starches.

Leftover grilled chicken can be used, or a store-bought rotisserie chicken is always a good summer staple to have in your fridge. Since I always have cooked shrimp in the freezer, I have substituted shrimp for the chicken on more than one occasion. If butter (bibb) lettuce is available, it is my best choice for this recipe, although red leaf lettuce is also favorable.

I never purchase duck sauce. When I have Chinese food delivered, there is always an extra packet or two and I save them for a recipe such as this. If you have an extra packet of hot mustard, you may want to add about 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon to the chicken mixture to give it a new dimension of flavor.

This recipe makes a great appetizer if you double or triple the ingredients. And since it is a smaller leaf, use endive leaves rather than romaine or butter lettuce. If you have leftover cooked rice in the fridge, you may want to add a bit to stretch the ingredients when creating more servings.

Although you can keep fresh ginger in the freezer and use as needed, I don't use it often enough to keep it and therefore I use ground ginger, which is always in my pantry. You may omit the dry herb and garlic soup mix but I find that this packaged soup mix has a great flavor and I use it in place of salt in many of my recipes.



Ann Macey

Asian lettuce wraps

2 tsp. soy sauce
2 tsp. canola or vegetable oil
1/4 C. shredded carrot

1/4 C. chopped scallions
1/4 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. dry herb & garlic soup mix
6 oz. chopped, cooked chicken meat
4-6 Romaine lettuce leaves
4-6 tsp. duck sauce

In a medium bowl, combine soy sauce, oil, carrot, scallions, ginger, and soup mix. Add chicken and toss until well coated. Spoon mixture evenly into lettuce leaves and drizzle with duck sauce. Yield: 2 servings

Ann Macey is the author of "Ann's Table for Two: Quick & Easy Two Serving Recipes." Ann welcomes your questions and comments at AnnTable@gmail.com.

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CALENDAR

This section is intended to promote "free" events or ones that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization that benefits the entire community. Paid events that are not deemed fund-raisers or benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. Deadlines vary with each individual newspaper, look inside for your deadline. We usually print one week in advance of an event, and the listings should be brief, with only time, date, location, brief activity explanation, and contact info. The best thing to do is emulate a calendar listing you like that already appeared in the paper. Each editor directly manages and edits all of the calendar entries. Artwork or photos to compliment your calendar listings are always welcomed.

EDUCATION

We try to be inside our public schools on a weekly basis, both in terms of sports coverage and classroom features. Our education and sports sections run 52 weeks per year. We feel school coverage is probably the single largest reflection of the communities we serve, so this paper is committed to having a strong presence there. We devote more staff and space to these sections than any other editorial realm. We do print free courtesy stories, briefs and photos submitted by teachers, sports teams and students, as we cannot possibly be at every event. If you have a photo you want to run, please include a photo caption identifying those in the image from left to right and a description of the event. Please call or e-mail the editor directly with your school event coverage requests at least three days in advance. If we can't attend, you are always encouraged to send in your own write-up and photos.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

OPINION

We love letters to the editor and guest columns. It is what the soul of this newspaper is all about. However, we don't print what we can't prove. All letters and columns must be signed and confirmed by us prior to publication. If you are alleging things that we cannot prove, we will consider that a news tip and look into it. We always encourage readers to celebrate their communities versus just slamming them. We also pen a weekly "editorial." Some readers confuse editorials with being objective "news." Our unsigned editorials are opinions formed after doing the research, or com-

plied through our reporters' stories and other means. We then write opinions, which do take a definitive side on issues. Editorials are not meant to be balanced to both sides like our news stories should. They are intended to opine around the facts and take a position. That's the whole point of the "opinion" page.

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

SPORTS

Our Sports Editor Dave Forbes and his reporters and photographers cover select varsity school games weekly as well as youth and adult sports leagues. Our team tries to be fair and spread the coverage around to all the teams, but as playoffs approach, teams making the playoffs take more precedence. We have tried hard this year to expand our coverage of youth sports, but we need coaches and players to send in their photos and write-ups. You can e-mail Dave Forbes at dforbes@turley.com.

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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 66 EMS calls for July 7 to July 13, and the following emergency response calls.

On July 7 at 12:57 a.m., the department responded to Fernwood Drive to assist invalid.

On July 7 at 6:55 a.m., the department responded to Cardinal Drive for public service.

On July 7 at 10:31 a.m., the department responded to Cosgrove Avenue for good intent call, other.

On July 7 at 7:54 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for unintentional transmission of alarm, other.

On July 7 at 10:28 p.m., the department responded to Stanley Place for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On July 8 at 8:13 a.m., the department responded to Pheasant Hill Drive for false alarm or false call, other.

On July 9 at 10:46 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for false alarm or false call, other.

On July 9 at 1:21 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street, no incident found on arrival at dispatch address.

On July 9 at 2:43 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On July 10 at 1:09 a.m., the department responded to Cecile Street for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

On July 10 at 8:24 a.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On July 10 at 1:57 p.m., the department responded to Coyote Circle for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On July 10 at 4:07 p.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for false alarm or false call, other.

On July 10 at 7:18 p.m., the department responded to Raymond Circle to assist invalid.

On July 11 at 1:20 p.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On July 12 at 11:12 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On July 12 at 6:26 p.m., the department responded to Silver Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On July 13 at 8:57 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for false alarm or false call, other.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 343 calls for service from July 7 to July 13. The department made three arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Saturday, July 11

Jarrett Hebert, 37, of 758 Westfield St., Apt. 11, West Springfield, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Sunday, July 12

Abdul Abdullahi, 20, of 6 Wellington St., Waltham, was arrested on a charge of trespassing.

A juvenile from Strafford, Conn. was arrested on charges of larceny over \$250, breaking and entering in the daytime for felony, and two counts of larceny over \$250.

Humason touts district benefits in state budget

BOSTON — The state Senate voted on July 8 to pass the final budget that was filed by the Conference Committee for fiscal 2016, which will now head to the governor's desk for his approval.

State Sen. Donald Humason Jr., R-Westfield, said he advocated for the needs of the 11 cities and towns he represents, which include Agawam, securing funds for public libraries, regional tourism and cultural councils, and advancing measures to assist seniors, Holyoke Community College and Westfield State University, the Holyoke Soldiers Home, Holyoke Medical Center and Noble Hospital, Western Massachusetts Hospital, Barnes Regional Airport, and sheltered workshops for persons with disabilities.

Humason secured an additional \$450,000 to benefit the 2nd Hampden and Hampshire District. This includes funding for:

- Public libraries in Granville, Montague, Russell, Southwick and Tolland
- Westfield on Weekends, Inc.
- Public safety improvements in Holyoke
- The repair of and improvements to Taxiway Sierra at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield
- The purchase of a refueling vehicle for the Highway Department of the city of Easthampton
- The restoration of language preventing the decrease in funding for Sheltered Workshops serving persons with disabilities seeking employment services
- The completion of the Freedom 104th Air Wing Monument and Memorial in Westfield

The budget included Humason's amendment requiring utility distributors to refund electricity customers who were retroactively re-billed at higher rates when making the switch to a competitive electricity supplier to save money for their families and businesses this past winter.

After receiving many calls from constituents on the matter back in March,

Humason stated he sees the inclusion of this amendment as a final step in what has been an intensive process to bring an end to an outdated, unfair practice.

"After the successful rescinding of the old Department of Public Utilities rule from 2000 that required these retroactive charges, this was the next logical step to remedy the situation and provide much needed relief to customers across the commonwealth and in my district," Humason said.

Additionally, the budget reflects the continued to goal of both legislative houses and the governor's office to combat the growing rates of opiate addiction and overdoses, providing for discounts for communities purchasing the overdose reversal drug Narcan when purchasing in bulk.

The Conference Committee also accepted the Senate Republican Caucus' plan to shield motorists from costly insurance surcharges for failing to use headlights when foul weather requires they turn their windshield wipers on. Under the proposal, the \$5 moving violation will no longer trigger the six-year auto insurance surcharge currently included in state law.

Finally, the budget includes major reforms to the MBTA, the Boston-area transit authority, that Humason had advocated. The budget alters the structure of the MassDOT board and creates an MBTA Fiscal Management and Control Board, which will report by Jan. 1, 2018, on whether the MBTA has achieved operational stability. The budget also suspended for five years the "Pacheco law," which restricts privatization of state contracts with a lengthy review process. A recent report from the Pioneer Institute estimates the MBTA has lost \$450 million due to the Pacheco law.

Humason maintains a district office for the convenience of his constituents and encourages them to contact him at his district office at 64 Noble St., Westfield, and at 413-568-1366; or his State House office, Room 213A, at 617-722-1415. His email address is Donald.Humason@MASenate.gov.



Sen. Humason

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Islamic prayer leaders
6. Waterproof raincoat
9. Millisecond
13. Popular pie nut
14. A field of mowed grass
15. RCO organic group
16. Pomace brandy
17. The innermost parts
18. Gull suborder
19. Became more intense
21. Sound absorption unit
22. Rattling breaths
23. Indicates doctor
24. For instance
25. A doctrine or system
28. Foot (Latin)
29. Dirt shoulder
31. Horn sound
33. Mumbai film industry
37. Disturbance
39. Zedong or Tse-tung
40. Cibun River city

42. Kate's sister Pippa
45. Twitches
46. Formal close (music)
47. A baglike structure
49. Lease
50. Typographical space
52. Pa's partner
53. King mackerels
55. Ceremonial staffs
57. About money
60. Spoiled child
61. Infants
62. Semitic fertility god
64. __ Frank's diary
65. Reimbursed
66. English pennies
67. 365 days
68. G. Gershwin's brother
69. Stopping device

CLUES DOWN

1. Inches per minute (abbr.)
2. Medieval honey drink
3. Land area unit

4. One who carries #55 across
5. Tin
6. Adult female horses
7. Overwhelmed with wonder
8. Brain and spinal cord (abbr.)
9. Inept
10. One who replaces a striker
11. Any habitation at a high altitude
12. Hold fast to
14. Sad from being alone
17. Slang for famous person
20. Soft infant food
21. Small mergansers
25. Big Blue
26. Appear to be
27. Greek verse intended to be sung
29. Next to
30. Flying Pegasus corp.

32. Records walking steps
34. Broad back muscle
35. Teased apart
36. Cut into small cubes
38. Icelandic poems
41. American time
43. City of Angels
44. Nostrils
48. Narrow canvas bed
50. Force into a bay
51. Sept. 1914 battle
53. Sergeant fish
54. Cavalry-sword
56. Town of Jesus' 1st miracle
57. Picasso's mistress Dora
58. Frog genus
59. Talk tiresomely
61. Characters in one inch of tape
63. Side sheltered from the wind
66. Lead

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HIRED

Chase joins credit union as VP

David A. Chase Sr., a resident of Agawam, has joined Freedom Credit Union as vice president of member business lending. Chase has over 25 years of experience in the banking industry with an extensive background in commercial lending. Most recently, he was vice president of commercial lending at Hampden Bank. Chase is actively involved with several organizations, including the West of the River Chamber of Commerce as a board member. Chase is also a vice president of the board of Gray House and also serves as a member of the Agawam Planning Board.

Freedom Credit Union has 10 locations throughout Western Massachusetts, including a branch at 959 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.



David Chase

CAMPUS NOTES

Becker College: Brandon Casey, of Feeding Hills, was named to the spring semester dean's list.

St. Lawrence University: Page Phillips, of Feeding Hills, was named to the spring semester dean's list.

University of New Haven: Andrew Walles, of Feeding Hills, graduated at ceremonies held recently.

University of Rhode Island: Carly N. Michel, of Agawam, and Danielle M. Habrat, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list.

BOOK ■ from page 1

er is printed a solid, fire-engine red with his name and the book's title in white letters.

He initially planned to just write about his two cousins and a family friend, all of whom are New York City firefighters. But as Cameron began his research and interviews, he became inspired by Agawam firefighter Pamela Murphy when he learned what she does to educate the community about fire safety.

Murphy met Cameron when his father brought him to the Main Street station for a visit several months ago. As part of his research, Cameron visited AFD headquarters three to four times to interview firefighters.

'Honored' by book

"Cameron was a pleasure to have around. Not only was he respectful of all who work in the department, but he was very interested in getting as much knowledge about firefighting as he could," said Murphy, who added that she's "honored" to be part of the book.

She said Cameron "has a way of making you enjoy having him around. His interviews were enjoyable — and they made us feel important. He made us feel proud of what we do."

"The interviews with my cousins and with the AFD gave me a good idea of the job and the different roles within the fire department. I got detailed tours and talked about the different trucks, tools, and gear," Cameron explained.

One of the reasons Cameron is so interested in firefighting is he wants to make it his career.

"I would love to become a firefighter to help people and to make a difference," he said.

His goal is to attend Louisiana State University, which prepares students for firefighting careers through its fire science program. After graduating with a degree in fire science, Cameron's hoping to join the Agawam Fire Department.

To help prepare for his future career, Cameron recently joined the Agawam Junior Firefighters program. It helps young people like Cameron learn about local fire, rescue and emergency medical services.

"I'm really excited about being a junior firefighter," said

Cameron.

Added Murphy, "He'll have a great future in our department."

'Cool' to research

It took Cameron five months and several drafts to complete the book.

"I rewrote some sections a bunch of times," he said. "Some parts were really difficult and some were really easy and fun." Writing about a topic he loves "really helped. It was cool to research and to learn, and then to put a story together from beginning to end."

Murphy — who recognized Cameron for his efforts at a School Committee meeting in late June — said she knew Cameron was conducting interviews but had no idea he was actually writing a book.

"I was just so proud when he showed me his book. I had the proverbial goosebumps on my arms," she said.

The Agawam firefighter said Cameron made a huge impact on her as a firefighter and as an educator: "I was just overwhelmed. Fire safety is a passion of mine and this book has made my job as an educator complete. The information needs to be put out to the public — and Cameron's book not only provides information about fire safety, but also how firefighters keep communities safe."

Cameron's parents, Joseph and Kelly Wood, also were impressed with the book.

"We read the entire book when Cameron brought it home. We're very proud of him — it was great to see how excited he was about it," said Joseph Wood.

'A great group'

The Woods — who called the Agawam Fire Department "just a great group of professionals" — praised the fire department members for assisting Cameron with his book.

"Everyone was willing to help him. They were informative, very generous with their time, and wonderful to be around. They couldn't have been nicer to Cameron each time he went to do his interviews," added Wood.

The interviews were Cameron's favorite part of the assignment.

"I heard some great stories," he said. "It was cool to listen to the different ones they told me."

TRACK ■ from page 1

istrator and a member of the subcommittee, said the scope of the project will largely remain the same. However, there are some add-ons that could be looked at. Councilors and School Committee members will also have the opportunity to ask questions of the architects.

"It will also be a great opportunity to for the councilors, who have to vote on the additional borrowing, to see what the current conditions are really like," said Bonfiglio. "They are going to walk around the school grounds. They are going to see the locker rooms and see the conditions the students are currently dealing with."

Progress on the athletic facility project hit a snag last month when bids for the project came in over the budget projected by the town's administration. Cohen sought to get an additional borrowing authorization for the project from the City Council at the special meeting, but withdrew his request because the low bidder withdrew.

The council will now wait for the project to go out to bid for a second time and then evaluate the additional borrowing request from the mayor, if it is still necessary. The council originally allowed Cohen to borrow up to \$6.75 million. Combined with funding from the CPA, the town had a budget of \$7,785,000 for the improvements.

Bonfiglio said the project will likely to go out to bid in early November, with ample time to approve the rest of the funding before the project starts next spring.

The meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 13, will begin at 10 a.m. and start in the high school gymnasium.

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IN THE FALL 2015 ISSUE OF THE

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Youth

AJHS students draw winning posters for local and state contests

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Mariel Izoita's interest in art began in first grade and by middle school she won contests where the top prize was a bag of candy. Kyle Reed's artistic desires kicked in when he took an interest in sketching as a middle school student.

As junior high school students, they recently drew winning posters. Mariel received \$100 and took second place in Hampden County in a statewide fire safety poster contest. Kyle won first place in a local contest to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the war in Vietnam. Both were honored at a recent School Committee meeting.

Agawam Junior High School art teacher Marcia Scherpa said both students created "outstanding" posters.

"Kyle was very effective at conveying the message of gratitude and honoring the bravery of our nation's veterans," she said. "Mariel is not only an outstanding artist, using advanced skills of foreshortening and figure drawing, but she also organized critical information in a very effective and innovative way."

Aldo Mancini, chairman of the Agawam Veteran's Council, said the purpose of the poster contest, which has been held for 15 years, is to engage students in Memorial Day celebrations. This year's topic honored the first U.S. combat troops that landed in Vietnam in 1965.

"We're always impressed with every student's effort. We look at the quality of the posters and how students get their points across. They truly put a lot of thought into their drawings," he added.

Poster on display

Kyle's poster — judged by all members of the council — has been framed and will be displayed at the Agawam Senior Center until being replaced with the next year's winning poster.

His initial concept was several silhouettes standing around a grave and saluting, with one kneeling in front of the grave. "However, there wasn't enough room for several silhouettes, so I stuck with one kneeling and paying his respects," added Kyle. He also included the words, "We will only be the land of the free as long as we are the home of the brave."

"The inspiration for my poster was just things I've seen over the years that are dedicated to veterans, such as flagging graves, and other things usually associated with the military," said Kyle, 14, who just completed eighth grade.

"I felt really good when I learned my poster had won," he said. "I was happy the committee thought my poster was the best and represented what they wanted to see. I hope veterans at the Senior Center will be able to receive my message of thanks."

Inspired by presentation

Mariel's inspiration came from a presentation by AFD



Mariel Izoita and Agawam Fire Chief Alan Sirois hold the winning poster that Mariel designed for a statewide fire safety contest. In the center are AFD Officer Pamela Murphy and fire dog Blaze. The AJHS seventh grader was honored a recent School Committee meeting. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

Officer Pamela Murphy on fire prevention.

"She really helped me understand how dangerous fires are and how we can help prevent them. I wanted to put that information onto my poster," Mariel said.

Mariel, 13, designed her poster to look like a child pinning important fire-safety tips onto a corkboard. "It represents how children learn new things that they take home from school and tell their parents [and] guardians about," she explained.

Mariel's poster has "many great ideas," Murphy said. "Any poster drawn by students for this contest is wonderful because one more student learned something about fire safety that will help lessen the probability of having a fire in their lives."

All the entries from Mariel's seventh grade art class were submitted by Murphy into a statewide contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriting Association. Posters are judged at the county level, with all first-place county winners competing at the state level for first, second and third place.

The contest brings fire safety information to pre-teen students in hopes it will reduce the number of accidental fires. Three years ago, Mariel's sister Maddy entered the same contest, winning first place in the county. Maddy's poster then won top honors statewide.

This year's theme was "Fire Prevention — Everyone/Everyday." Mariel's framed poster is on display at Agawam fire headquarters. Mariel's poster will also be displayed at the State House with other winning posters in October during Fire Prevention Month.

Mariel said she felt "very lucky" her poster won. "I was really happy since I worked really hard on it."

Art to educate, honor

Scherpa said the value of both contests is not in winning, but in the opportunity to put art skills to work to "create something that conveys meaning and serves to educate or to honor someone or something."

Art teachers help students choose how to convey a message with both a visual and an emotional impact, she added.

"The art lessons we engage in help develop the skills of drawing and working with elements and principles of good design," she said. "Communication and presentation are also skills that students practice through this process."

Kyle won't be continuing his art studies at AHS, since his family is moving to New Jersey this summer. He said he'll study art in college, but has no plans to make a career in art.

On the other hand, Mariel definitely plans to continue her art activities and to get involved with art clubs at AHS.

"I want to work with animation and films as well as creating 3D art and realistic art. Art will definitely be the basis for a career in my future."



Kyle Reed poses with Aldo Mancini, chairman of the Agawam Veteran's Council, at a recent School Committee meeting where Kyle was honored for drawing the winning poster in the council's annual contest.



Friends, family, supporters, and members of the Agawam Legion baseball team gather at the pitching mound at Shea Field for a group photos wearing Bruno T-shirts for Sunday's game against Greenfield. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

BRUNO ■ from page 1

"He also had just pitched three great innings for us against Ludlow. The boys took the news of his fall really hard."

The team learned of his fall just after a game, and it left many of his friends wondering what they could do to help.

Regnier quickly ordered T-shirts in the form of jerseys that were worn by the Legion players in their game on Sunday against Greenfield Post 81.

Each player had their normal jersey number on the T-shirt sleeve. But on the back, each jersey had number 7 and the name "Bruno" on the back in honor of their teammate.

"I have known him since I was 3 years old," said Tym Regnier, the team's second baseman. "He's a really strong kid and I know he's going to keep getting better and better."

Another teammate, Joe Mozdankowski, said he thought it was a great idea for his team to play their playoff game in honor of their teammate.

"He's a really close friend and we're really happy to wear his number today," said Mozdankowski.

"Bruno #7" was written in white chalk behind home plate, and more T-shirt jerseys were available for sale at the game. Nearly 200 T-shirts had been sold within the first day they were made available.



The Agawam American Legion Post 185 team poses behind home plate with their jerseys worn in honor of friend and teammate Antonio Bruno. Bruno's name and jersey number were written in chalk behind the plate.

Bruno's sister, Nina, a junior at Agawam High School, said she was overwhelmed by the support being shown by the players and others in the community. It was the second accident affecting her this year.

Nina Bruno's classmate, Alex Scafuri, was severely injured when he was hit by a car in March. The two incidents

have put things in perspective.

"It really opens your eyes when these things happen and things can change so quickly," said Nina Bruno.

While participating in the pregame ceremonies honoring Bruno, Greenfield Post 81 donated \$50. Nina Bruno also threw out a ceremonial first pitch.

Award-winning ‘Johnny the K’ performs for kids Wednesday

John Kelleher — “Johnny the K” — will perform his children’s music and audience participation show at the next KidsFest, 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 22.

KidsFest is brought to the public free of charge by the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department, with support from local businesses. The show will be held outdoors at the Veterans Green, 689 Main St., Agawam, next to Phelps School. In case of rain, KidsFest concerts will be cancelled.

Kelleher, a graduate of Boston State College with a bachelor of science degree in elementary education, was a fourth grade teacher in Everett for over 10 years. During these years, he also performed musical comedy throughout the Boston area. Coming from a musically talented family, Kelleher has an innate appreciation and respect for the connection between music and its effect on children’s development.

His dynamic and inspiring programs for young audiences, as well as moms, dads and grandparents, balance timely messages of environmental conservation, cultural diversity, positive behavior, self-esteem and drug abuse awareness with music, dialogue, visual props and lots of audience participation.

Kelleher’s first recording, “Party in the Park,” was a winner of the prestigious Parents’ Choice Gold Award.

Since leaving the teaching profession in 1989, he has become a recognized name in the children’s music industry. Performing over 250 shows annually, Kelleher has attained national and international prominence with highly acclaimed performances across the United States and Canada, including back-by-popular demand performances at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center in Tampa, Fla.; Andy Griffith Playhouse, Mount Airy, N.C.; Bethlehem Musik-



“Johnny K” will perform at KidsFest, scheduled for July 22 at Veterans Green in Agawam. SUBMITTED PHOTO

fest in Bethlehem, Pa.; Longwood Gardens in Philadelphia; and countless theaters, festivals and community performances across North America. After performing at the Northern Alberta International Children’s Festival in St. Albert, Alberta, Canada, he was voted “favorite of the festival.”

The 2015 shows are brought to the public free of charge by the following corporate sponsors: Agawam Advertiser News, Agawam Cultural Council, Agawam Lions Club, Agawam Rotary Club, Allied Flooring & Paint, Berkshire Power, Bolduc’s Apparel, Canary Blomstrom, Cumberland Farms, Easthampton Savings, King Ward Coach Lines, WRNX-FM 100.9, Lucia Lumber, Main Street Deli, Moren Signs, Olympic Manufacturing, Quality Auto, Republic Services, Sarat Ford, Ski Blandford, United Bank and Westfield Bank.

Junior High term 4 honor roll

The following students have been named to the term 4 honor roll at Agawam Junior High School.

Grade 8: Ashley Adams, Kalea Alvarez, Natalie Andrews, Abdullah Aydah, Mariangelie Beaudry, Jason Beaver, Alexander Bisson, Sydney Biza, Juliet Burbank, Jade Canney, Madison Carra, Nicholas Charest, Isolina Cipriani, Bradley Clarke, Madison Cofer, Lilivette Colon, Eyan Corridan, Yasuo Council, Raevin Crane, Amy Crawford, Cameron Croteau, Anan Daniels, Derek Davis, Tommaso DeCaro, Taylor DeGeorge, Mia DePalma, Olivia DePergola, Rachel Dialessi, Daniel Donahue, Joseph Dowd, Patrick Drake, Jared Durocher, Erin Dustin, Rawan Ebrahim, Sarah Ehresman, Parker Florian, Mariah Giberson-Acevedo, Kathryn Glaessner, Kasey Gobeille, Alia Godek, Timothy Goudreau, Jenna Grasso, Meghan Haines, Stephen Hall, Sangmyoung Han, Amanda Hitchcock, Veranika Hrytskevich, Sarah Hulse, Alexandra Humphries, Grayson Illouz, Alina Iovenco, Peter Jang, Hunter Jones, Miranda Kamukala, Samantha Kelley, Tyler Kelley, Amanda Kiley, Matthew King, Geoffrey Klafeta, Oleksandra Kobylanska, Ariana Korcz, Adam Krafcik, Diana Kulmizev, Autumn La Branche, Caroline LaBonte, Trysten Lajoie, Samantha Landry, Madelyn Lapierre, Dante Lee, Allison Leonard, Justin Lingenberg, Isabella Liquori, Jorge Maisonet Perez, Scott Malecki, Marissa Mansfield, Kaily Mayo, Haily Mereschuk, Morgan Miller, Allysha Miolla, Vanni Morello, Jacob Mullins, Madison O’Connell, Emily Oliver, Caroline Ortiz, Honesty Osbourne, Cassidy Patterson, Gwendolyn Payne, Sophia Pearson, Joseph Pellegrino, Jasmine Pszczola, Natalie Pullen, Kyle Reed, Mariana Reid, Noah Rivera, Katelyn Roberts, Claudia Romeo, Felicity Rovatti, Jordan Rowe, Sean Ryan, Justin Salva, Robert Schlosser, Lexie Sexton, Samuel Silchuk, Isabella Silva, Brandon Smith, Casey Smith, Andrew Snow, Sara Sonsini, Hayley Sotolotto, Shelby Stathis, Sophia Strain, Andrew Sullivan, Justin Swistak, Avery Szulc, Alexandria Taylor, Lena Tedeschi, Amanda Thomas, Joseph Thornton, Noah Trude, Ashley Ugolini, John Wheat, Sydney Winters, Doninic Zampiceni, Gloria Zgherea.

Grade 7: Genesis Aguilar, Shkurte Ahmeti, Arianna Albano, Sydney Anderson, Imani Barbour, Emily Bazanchuk, Michael Beaudry, Madison Beaulieu, Conor Begley, Daniel Belozarov, Brianna Benjamin, Cameron Benoit, Maxwell Blanton, Emily Bonfiglio, Elizabeth Bousquet, Gianna Boyle, Mackenzie Boyle, Allison Breton, Jason Breton, Sofia Bubuz, Nicholas Buonagurio, Shannon Cassidy, Jamie-Lyn Cavallon, Aidan Chan, Ruby Chen-evert, Joseph Chuduk, Cassidy Clarke, Kiera Cooley, Riley Coughlin, Olivia Courchesne, Megan Crawford, Robert D’Angelo, Emma Davilli, Alexander Denisenko, Madelyn Dickinson, Sydney Dietrich, Isabella Dimino, Mackenzie Douglas, Jack Dunn, Katherine Dustin, Madison Elias, Hailey Emmons, Erin Ewing, Emily Fal-

lon, Riley Fanning, Maxwell Felix, Connor Feyre, Jaliyah Figueroa, Johnathon Filamonte, Tessa Fitzgerald, Matthew Flagg, Emily Fontaine, Jack Frogameni, Olivia Frogameni, Emma Gale, Patrick Gauthier, Sierra Gauthier, Nadia Ghareeb, Zao Gill, Emily Gillis, Mia Gonyer, Matthew Gorman, Jaylee Hiersche, Kaylish Ingham, Mariel Izoita, Ally Jabry, Dong Kang, Mia Kelley, Nastasia Kirik, Cole Klafeta, Dorina Kodreanu, Alexander Korniyenko, Anthony Krzykowski, Kristen Langevin, Nicholas Lavrenchuk, Payton Lemke, Julia Lescarbeau, Matthew Long, Joseph Longo, Veronika Lukin, Evan Lyne, McKenzie Lyne, Godfrey Macadangdang, Ryan MacDonald, John Manale, Jessica Marino, Jeremy Martinez-Maldonado, Tate Mason, Kirsten McDonnell, Carina Menovshchikova, Zachary Moccio, Connor Montagna, Sarafina Nardi, Eric Nesen, Reynaldo Nieves, Emelie Oberheim, Alexandra Oldenburg, Jailene Ortiz, Suzanne Page, Prem Patel, Kaia Pfeffer, Mason Phillips, Kristina Piazza, Samuel Polley, Ian Poulin, Geta Preniqi, Getuar Preniqi, Elshama Privedenyuk, Zachary Quick, Madeline Rahilly, Ashley Reagan, Cassie Reed, Summer Reigles, Madison Rinker, Abigail Rodriguez, Jonathan Rolon, Lucas Rosati, Shania Rossi, Anna Russo, Antonio Russo, Joseph Russo, Diana Rybnikov, Dzmitry Ryhal, Abigail Sanchez, Michael Santore, Angelina Shayda, Jordan Shea, Dylan Sliech, Emily Smidt, Brady Spaulding, Esther Stepchuk, Jeian Stewart, Gabrielle Suffriti, Brooke Szafran, Amanda Szczepanek, Robert Taylor, Emma Thomson, Nicholas Thomson, Ethan Timms, Humberto Torres, James Tyrowicz, Ryan Wargo, Mason Wesley, Zack Wieners, Amanda Woodford, Marykate Wysocki, Gianna Yacovone, Eric Zheng.



Summer students performed “Happily Ever What!?” at Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills last weekend. The play, written by Marilene Allen, featured many familiar fairy-tale characters. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

THEATER ■ from page 1

characters such as the Mad Hatter, Queen of Hearts, Maleficent, Cinderella’s Evil Sisters, and the Wicked Queen.

Allen says the summer theater program often features many young people, and there must be parts available for all of them.

“When we look through plays, we simply do not have parts for 44 children,” said Allen. “So I wrote my own play the children could perform.”

Allen runs the facility on a daily basis. During the summer, she helps run several one-week camps for area children. She got involved with the theater about 20 years ago, and it keeps her busy — they run 27 productions per year.

When Allen got involved with doing theater for the home-schooled students of Western Massachusetts, she began writing shorter skits. This led to plays, and then led to plays with more parts.

She enjoys writing plays that have a lot of “tongue-in-cheek” humor to them, and tries to model them after writings of Charles Dickens and Mark Twain.

“Humor is a great way to get a good message to an audience,” said Allen. “There is not enough laughter in the world.”

While she has written a few plays for adults, she gears her children’s plays toward multiple parts.

“We want to make sure the children get enough lines,” said Allen. “We are helping to develop young actors and give them more confidence.”

This weekend, the summer program’s next production, “Quest for Aladdin’s Lamp” will be presented. It’s written by Allen’s partner, co-owner Lyle Pearsons. Both co-owners are residents of Agawam.

Pearsons said he has been involved with the theater for 25 years. Like Allen, he decided to start writing plays because the number of children in the theater program grew.

“I found it necessary to write plays so everyone could be involved,” he said.

He said he does not have any specific inspirations for playwrights and simply likes taking familiar stories and making new ones with twists.

“Quest for Aladdin’s Lamp” is actually a homemade sequel to the original Aladdin story. Pearsons says in the play, Aladdin’s son goes on a search for his father and the lamp.

“I like it because it has familiar characters and it is family-friendly,” said Pearsons. “I do this for the children. There is so much special talent in the area and they need a place to express themselves.”

Pearsons also has a second production running July 31 to Aug. 2, called “Cutlass of the Sea,” featuring actors ages 10 to 15. The final play this summer is “The Snoop Troop Agency,” written by former theater co-owner Margie Secora. That play will run from Aug. 7 to 9.

Tickets for all plays are \$9. The theater is at 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills. For more information, visit reddoortheatre.com or call 413-789-2026.

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SPORTS

BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

Greenfield knocks Agawam out of playoffs

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam American Legion Post 185 baseball team was swept out of the District 2/3 playoffs after suffering consecutive losses against Greenfield Post 81 last Saturday and Sunday.

After getting trounced on Saturday, Agawam was up against the wall on Sunday afternoon at Shea Field.

With the home advantage, the Brownies would turn to Tyler Heer, who retired the side in order in the top of the first and gave Agawam a chance to take a lead early in the game.

Matt Ackerman was in trouble early, battling control issues. He would walk Tym Regnier to start the game and Max Molta sent a single to right field. One out later, Austin Sabadosa would walk, and Ackerman would hit Luke Rheault with a pitch. That hit batter forced in a run to make it 1-0 Agawam.

Ackerman would induce a 6-4-3 double play to get out of fur-

ther damage.

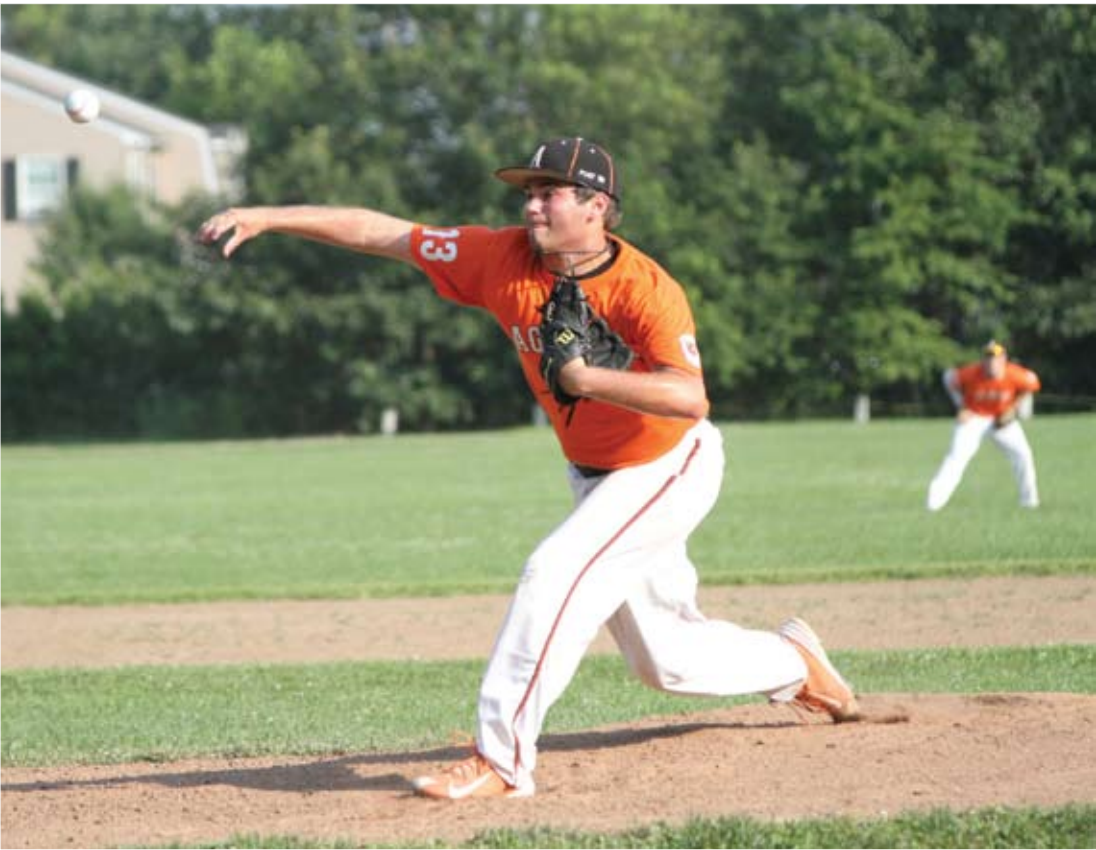
Post 185 would not hold the lead for very long, as Greenfield got to Heer for two runs in the second inning. It started with a pair of doubles and a ground out and a single would bring in the runs to give Greenfield a 2-1 lead.

Agawam got things going in the second inning with a walk by Griffin Gadreault. Tyler Orban followed with a sacrifice bunt, but Gadreault would be stranded from there.

Greenfield took advantage of an error to score a run in the fourth, and Agawam had a rally squelched in the bottom of the inning thanks to a line drive double play in the bottom of the inning.

In the fifth, Heer got into trouble after a ground out to start the inning. He allowed a base hit to each outfield spot to load the bases with one out.

Then, a fly ball hit to Travis Pirello in right turned into an inning-ending double play when



Tyler Heer pitches for Agawam against Greenfield. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

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GOLF

Garvin takes WGAM Junior crown

By Dave Forbes

Turley Publications Sports Staff Writer

ANDOVER – Angela Garvin, of Feeding Hills, added another trophy to her added growing lists of accomplishments on the golf course.

Garvin won the Women's Golf Association of Massachusetts Junior Championship at Indian Ridge Golf Course.

Garvin, who finished the tournament at +3 over par 149, won the tournament by two strokes.

Garvin, who shot +3 the first day, had a birdie, six pars, a bogey and a double bogey on the front nine. On the back side, she fired three birdies, three pars, two bogeys and a double bogey.

In the second round on the front nine, she made two birdies, two bogeys and five pars, while she had an eagle, a birdie, four pars and three bogeys.

Garvin leads at Miklus Open

The first round of the 36-hole Don Miklus Memorial Junior Open was held Monday at Tashua Knolls Golf Course in Trumbull, Conn.

Garvin opened the first round with a 1-over par 73, good for a three-stroke lead in the Girls Division over Carrie-Ann Lee of Kent, Conn., and Gabrielle Herzig of New York, N.Y. (76, +4). Sarah Houle of Sandy Hook, Conn. and Vienne Winalski are tied for fourth at 6-over par, 78.

Garvin was seeking to capture her fourth consecutive Junior Golf TOUR title of the 2015 season with a victory at the Don Miklus Memorial Junior Open.



Angela Garvin, of Feeding Hills, won the Women's Golf Association of Massachusetts Junior Championship at Indian Ridge Golf Course. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS COURTESY PHOTOS BY DAVID COLT PHOTOGRAPHY



BASEBALL

Lecuyer holds down Ludlow after rough start

Agawam tallies five in first inning

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – After allowing a few runs to start the game, Kevin Lecuyer settled in and pitched a complete game as the Agawam Junior American Legion Post 185 battled to an 8-4 victory over Ludlow Monday in the opening round of a double-elimination tournament at Shea Field.

Ludlow was able to get off to a quick start with the first three batters reaching on two singles and an error. A sacrifice followed by a double would plate three quick runs for Ludlow to give Post 52 a 3-0 lead.

Agawam did not wait at all to respond, and scored huge in the bottom of the first inning.

Steve Grasso would double with one out and A.J. Kerr followed with a single to send home the first run. Dom Ingham would then single to plate Kerr, and stole two bases. Josh Dematteo then walked and an error allowed a run to score and Aiden Page to reach base.

Tom Grenier followed with a single and before they knew it, Agawam had a 5-3 lead after just one inning.

Agawam added to the lead

BASEBALL | page 14

LITTLE LEAGUE

Feyre leads charge for Agawam

By Tim Peterson

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – Connor Feyre has been a member of the Agawam 11-12-year-olds little league all-star baseball team for the past three years.

In his team's opening round double-elimination game against Belchertown, Feyre hit a grand slam and he also did the job on the mound during the final three innings. Feyre's outstanding performance led Agawam to a 9-6 come-from-behind victory at beautiful Hulmes-Warner Mini

Fenway Park in Belchertown, last Saturday night.

"Connor Feyre is unbelievable," said Agawam manager Gerry "Boo" Smith. "The kid has been doing this for years and this is his time. He's a gamer."

Last Saturday's victory moved Agawam into the winner's bracket of the four-team tournament. They were scheduled to face Westfield American in another road game on Monday night. The winner of that contest automatically advances to the District 2

FEYRE | page 13

Sports

‘Scramble for the Animals’ seeks golfers

AGAWAM - Volunteers of the Westfield Homeless Cat Project and Open Arms Rescue, Inc., formerly Friends of the Westfield Regional Animal Shelter, Inc., are asking golfers to join them in their annual Scramble for the Animals, Aug. 2, at Oak Ridge Golf Club, 850 South Westfield St.

This year’s goal of \$6,000 will help to save the lives of hundreds of cats and dogs in the greater Westfield area. The \$100 cost includes golf, cart, lunch, dinner and prizes. Dinner only is \$25.

Prizes for a hole-in-one include a new Subaru from Berte-ra Subaru, a \$3,500 value pool or spa from Teddy Bear Pools and Spa and a cash prize of \$700. Other prizes include \$100 cash for closest to the pin male and female, and \$50 for longest drive male and female. Sign-up will be at 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. The registration deadline is July 15.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$50. It can be in the name of a business, in honor of or in memory of a loved one or a pet. Raffle prizes will also be appreciated.

For more information and registration form, contact Marie Boccasile at 413-564-0589 or e-mail marieboccasile@gmail.com.

FEYRE ■ from page 12

finals on Wednesday night. That team would also only need one win to claim the championship title. The loser of Monday’s game will need to win three games in order to achieve the same feat.

“This is a huge win for us,” Smith said. “If you can win your first two games in a double-elimination tournament like this one, you advance directly to the finals and the other team has to beat you twice.”

The members of the Agawam 11-12-year-olds All-Star team are: Kade Blackack, Noah Britton, A.J. Dillard, Connor Feyre, Nathan Jodoin, Dawson Mansfield, Jermaine Norfleet, Laine Page, Peter Parrotta, Garret Pelchat, Michael Santore, James Chenevert, Connor Twohig and Feyre.

The road to the District finals became a little bit longer for Belchertown, who defeated Agawam in extra innings during pool play. Belchertown needed to win a total of four games in order to claim the District title. They were scheduled to host Westfield National in an elimination game on Monday night.

“It’s a very tough loss,” said Belchertown manager Jon Endelos. “Our offense gave us the lead twice, but we struggled on the mound tonight and it really hurt us. We do have a deep pitching staff, which we’ll need if we want to win our next four games.”

The members of the Belchertown 11-12-year-olds All-Star team are: Owen Raines, Max Wojcik, Matt Bode, Tyler Laramie, Ryan Zawistowski, Gina Camerota, Zack Jenks, Graham Perlak, Chris Ingram, Austin Endelos, Jack Gelinias, Jordan Talbot and Colby Masse.

Agawam won the pregame coin toss and elected to be the home team.

Belchertown put three runs on the scoreboard in the top half of the first inning.

Gelinias began the rally by putting down a perfect bunt on the first pitch of the game. Two batters later Ingram singled to left putting runners at the corners. After Ingram stole second, Wojcik hit a ground ball that deflected off the shortstop’s glove allowing both base runners to cross the plate. Wojcik scored Belchertown’s third run following a wild pitch.

Agawam came storming back in the bottom half of the inning.

“We knew that we couldn’t put up a zero in that first inning or we would be in a lot of trouble,” Smith said. “The kids knew it and they came back to tie it up, which was nice. These kids don’t give up and know that we have the firepower to get on and it helped us today.”

Twohig began the inning with a single into right field and Feyre, who was 3-for-3, followed with a walk. After both runners moved into scoring position on a wild pitch, Santore grounded a single up the middle into center field driving home the first run. A couple of batters later, Pelchat tied the score at 3-3 with another single to center.

Belchertown would retake the lead in the following inning.

Jenks led off the frame with an infield hit and a perfect sacrifice bunt by Zawistowski moved him to second base. After advancing to third on a wild pitch that sailed to the backstop, Jenks scored the go-ahead run following another wild pitch.

Endelos reached base following a fielding error leading off the top of the third inning and Ingram lined a shot over the Green Monster giving Belchertown a 6-3 advantage. The inning ended with a runner trying to score on a wild pitch, but he was called out by the umpire for sliding head first, which isn’t allowed in Little League baseball.

It wound up changing the momentum of the game.

Agawam scored six runs in the home half of the inning. The biggest hit of the frame was Feyre’s grand slam that sailed over the center field fence. The other two runs crossed the plate following back-to-back walks by Blackack and Britton.

With his team holding a 9-6 advantage, Feyre set down nine of the final eleven batters that he faced.

The two teams could meet each other for the third time one day this week.

Tim Peterson is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.

Putt-ering a round



AGAWAM - Agawam Parks and Recreation is hosting its 2015 Junior Golf Program at Agawam Municipal Golf Course, 128 Southwick St. Golfers age 9-12 play nine holes, while kids ages 13-17 play 18 holes. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS SUBMITTED PHOTOS



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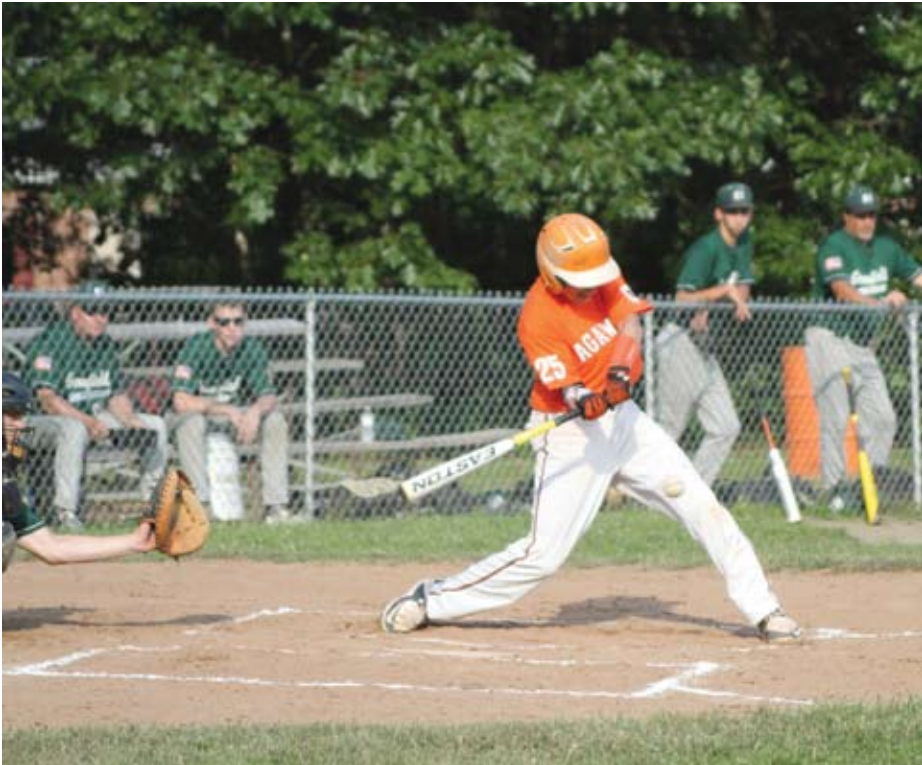
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Tym Regnier makes contact at the plate in the leadoff spot for Post 185.

PLAYOFFS ■ from page 12

Pirello threw a strike to the plate to nail a runner tagging up and trying to score. Heer would yield one more run in the top of the seventh on a wild pitched to make it 5-1 Greenfield heading into the final inning.

Agawam made some noise in the bottom of the seventh. It started out with a special appearance by Anthony Basile, who tore his ACL for the second time in three years and is awaiting surgery.

Basile decided to play one final game before surgery, and entered as a defensive replacement in the fifth inning. At the plate, Basile took an Ackerman pitch and hit it well over the left fielder for a double. A pinch runner would come around to score on a hit by Molta as Agawam's season finished with a fly out to center.

Agawam's Senior Legion team went 6-9-1 in the regular season.

AHS schedules annual golf tourney

AGAWAM - The Agawam High School Athletic Department will host its 21st annual golf tournament to be held Saturday, Sept. 26, at Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

This tournament raises money to help support the athletes and coaches of the Agawam High School programs. Student athletes do not pay fees at Agawam High School as some do in other communities.

To participate as a major sponsor, golfer or tee sponsor or to donate a raffle prize, contact Dave Stratton in the Athletic office at 413-821-0529 or email dstratton@agawampublicschools.org.

BASEBALL ■ from page 12

with two runs in the second inning. Grasso would single. One out later, catcher Matt O'Keefe would single. Both would come to the plate on a double by Ingham, the outfielder's second hit in as many innings.

Up 7-3 now, Lecuyer was touched up for one more run in the top of the third inning, but was untouchable from there.

"He struggled a bit in the first inning, but really shut down Ludlow from there," said coach Steven Grasso.

To put the exclamation point on the game, Agawam was able to send another run home in the bottom of the sixth inning. Troy Near reached on a single and was sacrificed to second. Grasso then delivered his third hit of the day, a double to make it 8-4.

Lecuyer then worked a 1-2-3 bottom of the seventh to ice the game for Agawam and move them to the next round of the junior legion playoffs against Greenfield.

Grasso had a huge day for Agawam, going 3-for-4 with a single and two doubles. Ingham was 2-for-3 and Kerr went 2-for-4.

Agawam also played excellent defense, Grasso said. Agawam's defense had been questionable at times during the regular season, but has stepped up of late.

Agawam finished the Junior Legion regular season with a 6-8-1 record, good for third place in the six-team field. Ludlow's next game was scheduled for Friday against an unknown opponent. Agawam's next opponent after Greenfield also has yet to be determined.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Obituaries & Church News



Participants from the inaugural Peace Day program held last year at the Agawam United Methodist Church. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Church hosts youth peace program

In spite of all the bad news regarding violence, the Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill St., Feeding Hills, is once again hosting an ecumenical, interfaith peace program for all children and youth ages 6 to 18 to demonstrate that peace is growing.

PeaceSeekers 2015, an expanded program built upon the success of last year's Peace Day 2014, will lead participants in ways to bring about peace in themselves, their families, their communities and their world. Through the practice of mindfulness meditation, participants will come to see that they must become the change they want to see in the world. They will be offered the tools of active, creative nonviolence with the hope that the peace seekers of today will become the peacemakers of tomorrow.

Topics of forgiveness and reconciliation, as well as dealing with peer pressure and bullying, will be explored through music, interactive videos, discussion, cooperative games, music and dance, and creative art. High school students seeking to earn community service credits are encouraged to apply.

The program will run from Monday through Thursday, Aug. 10 to 13, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with an evening event on Friday, Aug. 14, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for all participants and their families. To register, call 413-786-4174 or use the "Contact Us" form at www.agawamworship.org.

DEATH NOTICES

Brown, Donald J.
Died July 11, 2015
Private Services

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Curran delivers walk-off for Orioles

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – Former Agawam High School standout Seamus Curran has started out his professional baseball career with a big impact on his first team, the Gulf Coast Orioles for the Single-A Rookie Gulf Coast League.

Curran most recently had an eight-game hitting streak from June 30 to July 10, but has gone hitless in his past two games, knocking his batting average from .316 down to .255.

Still, Curran has been playing very well since signing a professional contract with the Baltimore Orioles organization.

He has been involved in games in several different ways, including some extra base hit and even a walk-off hit.

That big walk-off came last Monday afternoon, when Curran and his team were mired in a 0-0 deadlock with the Gulf Cost Twins in the bottom of the ninth inning.

With Branden Becker on base. Curran lifted an RBI single, his second hit of the day to account for the lone RBI to give the Orioles a 1-0 victory.

In 13 games this season, Curran has a .255 batting average. He has 12 hits in 47 at-bats. He has three extra base hits and four walks.

He currently sports a .321 on-base percentage and a .340 slugging percentage for a .661 OPS. He has driven in seven runs and scored three runs.

Curran has had three multi-hit games, though he is 0 for his last nine heading into Tuesday's action. Curran was not in Tuesday's starting lineup against the Gulf Coast Red Sox. Heath Hembree, a player that has seen major league action, was scheduled to pitch against the Orioles.

He has started eight games at first base. So far, he has lived up to his end on defense. He has just one error in 72 total chances. His other five starts have come at the designated hitter position.

Curran is still waiting for the first professional home run of his career. He will continue playing for the Orioles Rookie team for the summer. The season concludes at the end of August and then Curran will compete for a chance to be invited to spring training next year.

He was drafted in the eighth round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft. He was looked at by the Orioles, San Diego Padres, and Los Angeles Dodgers.

He batted .443 this spring for Agawam High School, a team that had a dismal season at 3-17.

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Business

Women's business group elects directors

The Women Business Owners Alliance of the Pioneer Valley has announced the newly elected board of directors for the 2015-2016 calendar year. The board was introduced at the annual "Business Woman of the Year" event held June 12 at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam. The directors began their new duties July 1.

The new executive board of directors includes Dee L. Emery-Ferrero, owner and publisher of DEF Enterprises, president; Carleen Eve Fischer Hoffman, owner of the Clutter Doctor and Hand to Paw Reiki, vice president; Mary Kearny, owner of Cleanscape Commercial Cleaning, secretary; Gretchen Duhaime, owner of Holistic Backroom, treasurer; and Eileen Jerome, owner of Party Plus and WBOA past president, and Freda Brown, owner of Divorce Financial Services and WBOA immediate past president, president's advisors.

The board of directors includes Liz Provo, Debbie Sorcinelli, Ann Hodgekiss, Eileen Jerome, Beverly Astley, Anita Eliason, Jennifer Roberge, Debra Whitford, Shelly Hines, Ida Tassanari, Susan Allen, Marie Jablonski, Lori Fortuna, Mary Ann Marzano, Tracy Goodman, Claudia Gear, Dr. Tami Nelson, Mary Ann Dennis, Freda Brown, Dee L. Emery-Ferrero, Carleen Eve Fischer Hoffman and Eileen Jerome.

The WBOA is always open to new members. For more information, call 413-366-1895. visit www.wboa.org or email connect@wboa.org.

BUSINESS MOVE

Energy Executives opens Feeding Hills office

Having just celebrated its first anniversary, the Energy Executives, an energy advisory firm in Feeding Hills, has moved to a larger office in the Crossroads Shopping Plaza at 14 Southwick St. Founder and company president Jim Lockwood, a lifelong Feeding Hills resident, attributes the move to rapid growth.

"The company was established in West Hartford and we quickly opened our second office here in town last September," he said. "With 10 sales executives on staff now and more by the end of the year, this move allows us to accommodate that growth and anticipate the administration that accompanies the increase in business."

The Energy Executives helps business customers secure the most advantageous supply rates on their electricity and natural gas. Lockwood is an industry veteran with 15 years' experience as a leading salesman and business development manager.

"I was fortunate to cut my teeth in energy just as deregulation was enacted in Massachusetts and Connecticut," he said. "It's truly rewarding to help a customer fully understand and select the right product, whether they're operating a restaurant, a large manufacturing plant, or all the municipal buildings of a town or city."

Steve Jones, vice president of sales, an Agawam resident for nearly 20 years, has been with the Energy Executives since day one. With 10 years of staff management in the finance industry and more recently nine years of award-winning sales in entertainment, Jones was ready for the challenge of starting a new business and leading the sales effort.

"Many of the management skills and sales techniques I've developed were immediately applicable in the planning and launch of this company," said Jones. He added, "We've been fortunate in hiring strong sales veterans who have spurred our rapid growth, and we'll continue to do



Steve Jones, left, and Jim Lockwood at the Energy Executives' new Feeding Hills office. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

the same as our team expands into all deregulated states."

According to Lockwood, "Electricity in this region is generated predominantly by natural gas-fired power plants, but for at least several more years we're dealing with a capacity shortfall in the gas pipelines. This has and will continue to force higher winter electricity rates. It's a classic case of supply and demand that affects every business. Our customers are saving money and enjoying fixed-rate price certainty in a volatile energy market."

The company serves local and regional businesses, and has recently expanded to serve homeowners seeking to install solar power. For more information, call the Energy Executives at 800-325-6830, or stop by the office at 14 Southwick St., Feeding Hills.

Legals

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD15P1224PM
In the matter of:
Diana Maklary
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/
Minor)
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT
OF CONSERVATOR OR
OTHER PROTECTIVE
ORDER PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B,
§5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Michelle Garrity** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Diana Maklary** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jonathan J Davey** of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 07/28/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must

file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: June 30, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
7/16/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD15C0097CA
In the matter of:
Susan Elizabeth Martin
Of: Feeding Hills, MA
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

For all persons interested in petition described:

A petition has been presented by **Susan E Martin** requesting that: **Susan Elizabeth Martin** be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows:

Susan Elizabeth McKenzie
If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at: Springfield on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 08/07/2015.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 10, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
7/16/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD15P1267EA
Estate of:
Stephen W Daniels
Date of Death: 04/04/2015
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Lisa M Daniels** of Agawam MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Lisa M Daniels** of Agawam MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/05/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE

CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 08, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
7/16/15

**LEGAL AD
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**
The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 6:10 PM**, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. for work to be performed on Suffield Street subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of **Henry A. Kozloski**, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
7/16/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD15P1116EA
Estate of:
Yolanda M Daponde
Date of Death: 1/27/2015
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
To all persons interested in the above captioned est-

ate, by Petition of Petitioner **Michael Grasso, Sr.** of Southwick MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Michael Grasso, Sr. of Southwick MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

7/16/15

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of The Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield for property known as 833 Main Street.

By Order of **Henry A. Kozloski**, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission

7/16/15

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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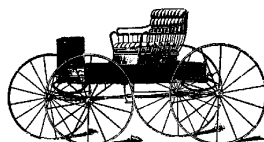
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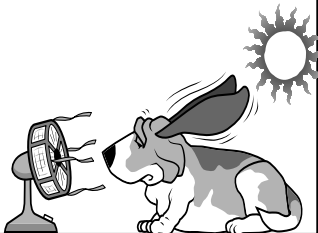
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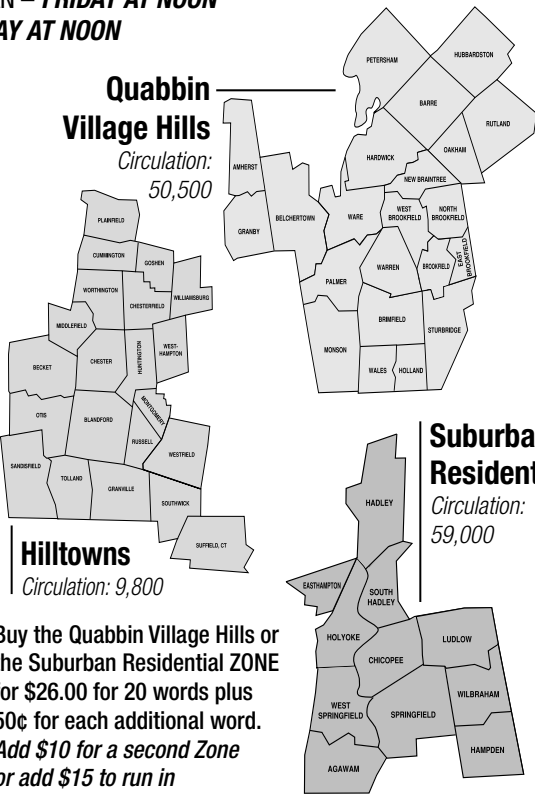
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Barre, MA 01005
(978) 355-4000
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(413) 967-3505
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THE SUN
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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Sunday, July 19

THE 94TH UNITED STATES ARMY BAND will perform a free concert at 2 p.m. on the grounds of the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, 1 Armory Square. Admission is free. The concert will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. For more information, call 413-734-8551 or visit www.nps.gov/spar.

Monday, July 20

EDIBLE PLANTS WALK & TALK at 6:30 p.m. with Rich Giordano, of All Hill Farm in West Brookfield and the Sturbridge Village Historic Herb Garden, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. Wear comfortable shoes for a walk behind the library and high school searching for edible plants. The best time of year for harvest and recipes will be discussed. To register, call 413-789-1550 ext. 4, or online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

“THE SMART WAY TO BUY OR SELL A HOME ... and Save Thousands of Dollars,” free seminar at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. at 1 p.m. To register, call Raymond Rose at 413-530-2186 or email RaymondRose@aol.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

Tuesday, July 21

HANNA PERLSTEIN MARCUS, AUTHOR OF “SIDONIA’S THREAD” at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. Born to a talented seamstress in a displaced persons camp, attendees will hear how Marcus searched for the identity of her absent father, the reasons for her Holocaust-survivor mother’s reclusive life in America and why she can’t sew. Much of this book is set locally in Springfield. To register, call 413-789-1550 ext. 4, or online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

Wednesday, July 22

SUPER CRAFTERNOON at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., as part of the summer reading program. For children ages 3 to 8. Assistance provided by teen volunteers to use superpowers to create something fabulous.

THE KIDSFEST FREE CONCERT takes place at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Green, 689 Main St., Agawam (next to Phelps School) and will feature “Johnny the K.” In case of rain, the show will be cancelled.

THE SUMMERFEST FREE CONCERT SERIES continues at 7 p.m. at School Street Park in Agawam with a performance by the Top 40 dance band, “Emotion.” Based around the Springfield area, Emotion includes five members performing an impressive repertoire of music spanning six decades. From oldies to swing, rock to country, and pop to the latest dance tunes, Emotion has something for everyone.

Thursday, July 23

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield will host “A Summer Evening with Cole Porter” as part of its “A Little Night Music” concert series. It is free and open to the public; food donations will be accepted. For more information, visit www.trinityspringfield.org.

Friday, July 24

THE YANKEE COLOR CLASSIC HORSE SHOW takes place today through Sunday, July 26, from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

Saturday, July 25

THE HAMPDEN COUNTY 4-H FAIR takes place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Mallary Complex and Outdoor Horse Ring on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is free.

LITTLE HOUSE FAMILY DAY takes place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Storowton Village Museum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Admission is \$10 per person. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

THE WATER SHOPS: THE BEATING HEART OF ARMORY PRODUCTION will take place at 1 p.m. Participants will see and walk the historic grounds along the Mill River just south of the Armory’s Hill Shops where the Springfield Armory National Historic Site now is. This ranger-led program is free. For more information and weather cancellation, call 413-734-8551 or visit www.nps.gov/spar.

Sunday, July 26

NORTH HALL ARTS FESTIVAL presents Charles Neville & Sons, legendary jazz saxophonist. Admission \$10 at the door; students free. Visit www.northhallhuntington.org.

Tuesday, July 28

CREATING GREEN SMOOTHIES WITH JULIE SALVATO, the “Happy Veg Head” at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Salvato will show participants how to create and taste four green smoothies, learn about the health benefits of super foods and leave with some delicious recipes. To register, call 413-789-1550 ext. 4, or online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

Teacher group honors active members

Carol LaPolice, president of Alpha Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and a resident of Agawam, recently reported to the state and international organization that during the past year, Alpha members were involved in the following projects: A Child’s Wish (donations of Christmas requests from children of the Springfield Family Center; donations of homework help materials to the Springfield Family Center after school program; new teacher supply replenishment for area teachers; donations to schools for Africa; grants in aid for outstanding high school seniors majoring in education and support to state and international scholarships for educators.

LaPolice recently bestowed special recognition to member Ursula Hogan, recipient of the President’s Award for Leadership, for her many innovative and supportive works for Alpha Chapter. Hogan, who also serves as treasurer of the chapter, received a pin inscribed “Chapter Woman of Distinction.”

Geraldine Schilling-Nordal of Agawam received special recognition on her 50th year as a member of Alpha Chapter. She was presented with a pin commemorating her 50 years as a member and a gift as a remembrance. After joining in 1965, she was on the hospitality committee, the art chairman in the 1970s and 1980s, the banquet reservation chairman in the 1990s, and early 2000s, worked on the historical archives, and the 50th and 60th anniversary committees. She attended a DKG leadership conference in 1996. Schilling-Nordal still attends meetings and contributes to projects. She began her career after attending Boston University and was an art educator in Agawam, rising to chairman of the department and a curriculum writer.

Schilling-Nordal has also won several photography contests and is a published photographer. Her artwork has been displayed in the Agawam Public Library. She has been a leader in the town of



Geraldine Schilling-Nordal

Agawam, appointed to committees and councils showcasing her art and leadership talent, including float design and town beautification and culture. She is currently on the board of directors for the Agawam Senior Center.

She is a lifelong member of the Massachusetts Teachers Association and National Education Association, and belongs to many community organizations, as well as doing work for her alma maters. She has been recognized in Who’s Who in American Education as well as several other Who’s Who publications. She is the first person to be recognized on the Agawam public schools’ Walk of Fame for the longest number of years teaching; she began in 1957, 58 years ago.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society is a professional honor society for women educators with more than 83,000 members. Established in 17 member countries around the world, Delta Kappa Gamma defines its mission as promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



Back row, Beth Danforth. Front row, from left, Carol LaPolice and Ursula Hogan. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

- Monday, July 20:** Chicken a la king over homemade biscuits, tossed salad, peaches.
- Tuesday, July 21:** Pork chops, onion gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, mixed fruit.
- Wednesday, July 22:** Chicken gratin, scalloped potatoes, California blend vegetables, apricots.
- Thursday, July 23:** Meatloaf, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, baked good.
- Friday, July 24:** Baked fish, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, diced pears.

Calendar of Events

- Monday, July 20:** 8 a.m., YMCA Mohegan trip, weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Giant Tag Sale; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., free home buying and selling

seminar, Bingo; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

- Tuesday, July 21:** 9 a.m., tag sale, shuffleboard, S.H.I.N.E. (by appt.), exercise restarts; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg, ladies billiards, movie (“Grease”); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance.
- Wednesday, July 22:** 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., tag sale; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., Scribble; 1:30 p.m., Agawam Golden Agers Chapter 1 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 7 p.m. School Street Park concert (Emotions Band).
- Thursday, July 23:** 9 a.m., tag sale, exercise; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, Open Art class; 6:30 p.m., pitch, evening line dancing.
- Friday, July 24:** 8 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., last day of tag sale; 9:15 a.m., all media art; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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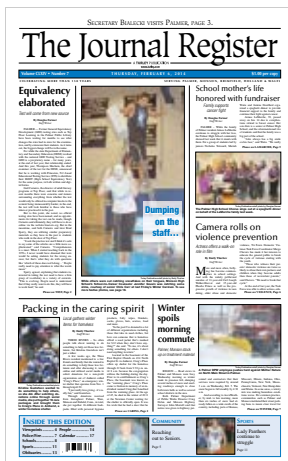
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